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Patent

Claim 1. (Three times amended) An isolated, enriched or purified nucleic acid molecule:

(a) encoding a MDK1 polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2; or

(b) a nucleic acid molecule that is completely complementary to the nucleic acid molecule of (a).

Claim 3. (Three times amended) A recombinant nucleic acid molecule, comprising:

(a) a nucleic acid sequence that, when transcribed, produces a transcript encoding a MDK1 polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2; or

(b) a nucleic acid molecule that is completely complementary to the nucleic acid molecule of (a); and

a vector or a promoter effective to initiate transcription in a host cell.

Claim 4. (Three times amended) A recombinant nucleic acid molecule, comprising:

a transcriptional region functional in a cell comprising a nucleic acid sequence that, when transcribed, produces a transcript

(a) encoding a MDK1 polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2; or

(b) a nucleic acid molecule that is completely complementary to the nucleic acid molecule of (a); and

a translational termination region functional in a cell.

Claim 19. (Three times amended) An isolated, enriched, or purified nucleic acid molecule:

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63 or  
(a) encoding MDK1.T1 set forth in SEQ ID NO:3; MDK1.T2 set forth in SEQ ID NO:5; MDK1.Δ1 set forth in SEQ ID NO:11; or MDK1.Δ2 set forth in SEQ ID NO:12;

(b) a nucleic acid molecule that is completely complementary to the nucleic acid molecule of (a).

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Claim 21. (Four times amended)  
molecule:

An isolated, enriched, or purified nucleic acid

(a) encoding a MDK1 polypeptide comprising the extracellular domain as set forth by amino acids 18 to 538 of SEQ ID NO: 2; or

(b) a nucleic acid molecule that is completely complementary to the nucleic acid molecule of (a).

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Claim 22. (Four times amended)  
molecule:

An isolated, enriched, or purified nucleic acid

(a) [encoding a MDK1 polypeptide comprising the transmembrane domain as set forth by amino acids 539 to 579] consisting of residues 1894-1969 of SEQ ID NO: [2]1; or

(b) a nucleic acid molecule consisting of residues that [is] are completely complementary to the nucleic acid molecule of (a).

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Claim 24. (Four times amended)  
molecule:

An isolated, enriched, or purified nucleic acid

(a) encoding a MDK1 polypeptide comprising the intracellular domain as set forth by amino acids 580 to 998 of SEQ ID NO: 2; or

(b) a nucleic acid molecule that is completely complementary to the nucleic acid molecule of (a).

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Claim 25. (Four times amended) An isolated, enriched, or purified nucleic acid molecule:

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(a) encoding two or more MDK1 domains selected from the group consisting of amino acids 18 to 538 of SEQ ID NO: 2, amino acids 555 to 579 of SEQ ID NO: 2, and amino acids 580 to 998 of SEQ ID NO: 2; or

(b) a nucleic acid molecule that is completely complementary to the nucleic acid molecule of (a).

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 16, 18-19, 21, 22, and 24-26 are pending in the instant application. Applicants have cancelled claim 2 and have amended claims 1, 3, 4, 19, 21, 22, 24, and 25 herein. The amended claims are fully supported by the specification as filed, and do not introduce new matter or require a new search. The amendments merely clarify the claimed subject matter using preferred terminology.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue subject matter no longer claimed in the instant application in this or other appropriate patent applications. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claimed invention in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.